

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claim 2 and amend claims 1 and 4.

1. (Currently amended). A vacuum pump, comprising a flange provided on a suction side of the pump for connection with a connection flange of a recipient, and a tempering component to be arranged between the suction side flange of the pump and the recipient connection flange and including tempering means, wherein the tempering means comprises a circumferential groove provided on the component, and a hollow body received in the groove.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Original). A vacuum pump as set forth in claim 1, wherein the tempering means comprises a circumferential groove provided on the component, and means for closing the groove comprising a sleeve and sealing means.

4. (Currently amended). A vacuum pump as set forth in claim 1, wherein the tempering means comprises a plurality of four bores formed in the component forming two pairs of diametrically opposite bore and extending, respectively, parallel to a horizontal axis of the component and perpendicular thereto.

5. (Original). A vacuum pump as set forth in claim 1, wherein the tempering means includes means for flowing a tempering fluid therethrough.

6. (Original). A vacuum pump as set forth in claim 5, further comprising temperature control means connected with the tempering means.

7. (Original). A vacuum pump as set forth in claim 1, wherein a plurality of tempering components is provided between the suction side flange and the recipient connection flange: